



COUNCIL, 14 September 2016

SUBJECT: Improving the Safety of Our Schools across the Borough - Phase One Consultation

Following on from a number of complaints and the Council's limited ability to enforce dangerous parking around schools, a Cabinet report was approved in April 2016 to consult on the introduction of PSPOs (Public Space Protection Orders). A PSPO allows for immediate enforcement where parking legislation requires enforcement officers to wait 10 minutes before issuing a ticket. This means a child's life is at risk for at least 10 minutes before the Council can take action on dangerous parking.

Unlike Parking Enforcement, PSPO legislation allows the Council to treat dangerous parking as a criminal offence where a child's life has been or could be endangered, and hence immediate enforcement action can be taken.

Six primary schools were consulted within Phase 1: Wykeham Primary, Parsonage Farm Primary, The James Oglethorpe Primary, Engayne Primary, Broadford Primary and St Peters Catholic Primary Schools.

This report sets out the phase 1 consultation results and next steps. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment, Regulatory Services and Community Safety responsible have requested that Council note this report and provide views before a final decision is taken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is asked to:

1. Note that phase one will be a pilot of the PSPO prohibition: 'no school drop off or pick ups'. This means access into the area will be permitted to minimise the impact on residents and their visitors.
2. Support the proposed introduction of a PSPO operating from 08.00 to 09.30 and 14.30 to 16.00 Monday to Friday during each term of the school academic year.
3. Note that a PSPO, if agreed, will be implemented at the following school locations:
 - i) Wykeham Primary School
 - ii) Parsonage Farm Primary School
 - iii) The James Oglethorpe Primary School
 - iv) Engayne Primary School
4. Note that a PSPO Zone will not be introduced around St Peter's Catholic and Broadford Primary Schools.

5. Note that the final decision to implement the four schools (listed above) will be taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Regulatory Services and Community Safety as delegated.

REPORT DETAIL

Road safety is paramount in Havering. This pilot seeks to tackle the safety of children around schools following on from a number of complaints received by the Council. In addition to this, CCTV surveillance demonstrates that parents are parking dangerously through restricting a child's view when crossing a road, or obstructing a person's ability to safely cross the road at all.

A consultation exercise was conducted and delivered in two phases.

- Phase one: Wykeham, Parsonage Farm, James Oglethorpe and Engayne, Broadford and St Peters.
- Phase two included a further six schools: Ardleigh Green Infants School, Branfil Infant School, Crownfield Infant and Primary School, Gidea Park Primary School and Hylands Primary School.

This report outlines the progress made as a result of the phase 1 consultation. Phase 2 consultation results will be reported separately once the phase 1 pilot has been completed.

Consultation Method

Information regarding the consultation was posted on the Council's website to ensure complete transparency. A PSPO consultation pack and questionnaire was also distributed to households within the PSPO area, in addition to parents and teachers of the respective schools. 892 questionnaires were submitted from phase 1.

To allow stakeholders to review and discuss the scheme, residents, parents/carers and businesses were invited to drop in sessions at the six schools and a final overall meeting was held at the Town Hall. The drop in sessions attracted 403 attendees.

Phase 1 Consultation Results

A summary of the consultation outcomes are shown in the table below.

Phase 1 Consultation		
Phase 1 Primary Schools	In favour of introducing a PSPO	Approve for PSPO
Wykeham	77%	Yes
Parsonage Farm	78%	Yes
The James Oglethorpe	81%	Yes
Engayne	79%	Yes
Broadford	44%	No
St Peters	33%	No

The table above shows that a majority of respondents overall are in favour of the introduction of PSPOs at Wykeham Primary, Parsonage Farm Primary, The James Oglethorpe Primary and Engayne Primary schools.

Design Principles

The school PSPOs have been designed to create a 'safe zone' around the school sites. Whilst March's Cabinet report suggests limited road access, this would be an inconvenience to residents and administratively costly. Having reviewed CCTV footage, a lighter touch approach has been proposed for the Phase 1 pilot. PSPO entry plates with repeat signs will be displayed within the zone. Enforcement will be via CCTV and enforcement officers patrolling the streets within the PSPO zone.



To simplify the communication and processing of enforcement, it will only be an offence if an offender drops off or picks up school children from a vehicle in that zone during the prescribed hours. The only exception to this will be those parents or carers of disabled children who required door to door transport access. All other activity such as resident movement, deliveries, emergency services, for example will not be subject to enforcement action.

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A series of complementary measures will also be implemented should the PSPOs go live. The reason for waiting to implement these measures is to allow officers to assess the impact on the PSPO prior to any measures being introduced.